

CLAIMS:

{ 1. to 21. (Cancelled) }

{ 22. to 58. (Withdrawn) }

{ 59. to 65. (Cancelled) }

Sub E
66. (Previously Amended) A method of providing a plurality of services over a network, said method comprising the steps of:

transmitting, by a user terminal, a request to a service center for printing an image stored on the network;

storing, by the service center, items and their prices in a first table ;

storing, by the service center, a plurality of service providers, and at least one item included in each type of printing provided by each one of the plurality of service providers, in a second table;

calculating, by the service center, a charge related to the request by referring to the first and second tables;

sending a notification from the service center to the user terminal, the notification including the charge calculated in the calculating step;

forwarding the request from the service center to an appropriate service provider via the network automatically upon receipt by the service center of an instruction from the user terminal based on the calculated charge; and

performing, by the appropriate service provider, printing of the image according to the request received from the service center.

{ 67. (Cancelled) }

68. (Previously Amended) A system of providing a plurality of services over a network, said system comprising:

a user terminal for transmitting a request to a service center for printing an image stored on the network;

a plurality of service providers; and

wherein the service center stores items and their prices in a first table, stores the plurality of service providers and at least one item included in each type of printing provided by each one of the plurality of service providers, in a second table, calculates a charge related to the request by referring to the first and second tables, sends a notification from the service center to the user terminal, the notification including the calculated charge and forwarding the request from the service center to an appropriate service provider via the network automatically upon receipt by the service center of an instruction from the user terminal based on the calculated charge,

wherein the appropriate service provider performs printing of the image according to the request received from the service center.

{ 69. (Cancelled) }

70. (Previously Amended) A service center apparatus for managing a plurality of services provided over a network, said apparatus comprising:

reception means for receiving a request for printing an image stored on the network, from a user terminal via the network;

first storage means for storing items and their prices;

second storage means for storing a plurality of service providers and at least one item included in each type of printing provided by each one of the plurality of service providers;

calculation means for calculating a charge related to the request by referring to the first and second storage means;

notification means for sending a notification to the user terminal, the notification including the charge calculated by the calculation means; and

transmission means for transmitting the request to an appropriate service provider via the network automatically upon receipt of an instruction from the user terminal based on the calculated charge.

71. to 75.

(Cancelled)